



HR0305

LRB098 11956 MST 45352 r

1

HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are pleased to recognize The Ancona School in  
4 Chicago on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of its  
5 founding; and

6           WHEREAS, The Ancona School was started in the autumn of  
7 1962 by 5 young Hyde Park neighborhood families; then called  
8 The Ancona Montessori School, it opened in a storefront on 53rd  
9 Street and Lake Park Blvd. with the Montessori-inspired concept  
10 that instead of having a passive role between children and  
11 learning, children at the new school would be empowered through  
12 choice and independence to pursue their own interests and  
13 intellectual challenges in a racially inclusive environment;  
14 and

15           WHEREAS, The Montessori concept, developed by Italian  
16 physician and educator Maria Montessori, is practiced in an  
17 estimated 30,000 schools worldwide, serving children from  
18 birth to 18 years of age; it is characterized by an emphasis on  
19 independence, freedom within limits, and respect for a child's  
20 natural psychological development; and

21           WHEREAS, The Ancona School flourished after its founding in  
22 late 1962 and 2 years later, it moved to the former Faulkner

1 School building at the corner of 48th Street and Dorchester  
2 Ave.; by the mid-70s, it had grown from a one-room Chicago  
3 preschool into a comprehensive preschool through 8th grade  
4 Montessori-inspired program; and

5 WHEREAS, To provide for the burgeoning elementary grades,  
6 The Ancona School built an addition in 1968; adjacent lands  
7 were purchased in the 1980s and a second addition was built in  
8 1993 to accommodate the growing middle school; renovations to  
9 the Faulkner Building in 2001 brought the campus to its current  
10 configuration; and

11 WHEREAS, In 2006, Chicago Magazine named Ancona as one of  
12 the 25 best private elementary schools in the Chicago  
13 metropolitan area; and

14 WHEREAS, Today, the Ancona School has exceptional academic  
15 programs, unique museum partnerships, innovative teaching  
16 initiatives, and national recognition as an effective  
17 non-profit from the Brookings Institute; therefore, be it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
19 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
20 we recognize The Ancona School's 50th anniversary and wish the  
21 administrators, faculty, and staff many more years of success;  
22 and be it further

1           RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
2 presented to The Ancona School as an expression of our esteem  
3 and respect.